President's Corner: Kudos to Faculty, Staff, and Administrators for Their Work on the Transportation Technology Building Design and the Chromebook Loan Program

Transportation Technology Center

Many kudos to the faculty, staff, and administrators from the Auto Technology, Auto Body/Paint, and Diesel Mechanics areas for their time, dedication, and feedback during the design phase for the new Transportation Technology Building, which will replace Building B/E. The new building will be located on the grass area along Ralph Appezzato Memorial Parkway.

Due to the shelter-in-place restrictions the entire design process was facilitated through remote meetings. While not ideal, the group did not miss a beat. Working with JK Architecture and Engineers (JKAE), we have an excellent building design. Below is a link provided by JKAE to share a virtual flythrough video of the facility showing the innovative design, including exteriors, interior classrooms, and a virtual overhead view of the campus: https://youtu.be/IBc7Wy4n8_k

College Information Technology

I want to give a shout out to the college IT team, including **Bala Sampathraj, Michael Duensing, Shawn Foster,** and **Daniel Park**. Since the beginning of the shelter-in-place orders, our IT staff members have been working diligently to make technology resources available to faculty, staff, administrators, and students in support of remote work, teaching, and learning. They have received, configured, and deployed over seventy (70) computers/laptops to faculty and staff and two hundred (200) Chromebooks for the student loan program.

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In addition, Library faculty/staff, **Ann Buchalter, Caitlin Gilbert, Cheryl Peel,** and **Jane McKenna,** were instrumental in adding records (cataloging) to the library system for the Chromebooks to be available for student check-out. The Chromebook webpage was up like lightening thanks to **Shane Williams, Tina Vasconcellos,** and **Dominique Benavides.**

Lastly, administrators **Tina Vasconcellos, Dominique Benavides, Eva Jennings,** and **Lilia Celhay,** in an impressive students-first joint effort, joined me in working three hour shifts at the info booth distributing the laptops to appreciative students.

Stay well!

Sincerely,

Timothy Karas, Ed.D.
President

FabLab and CoA's Apparel Design and Merchandising (ADAM) students join the fight against COVID-19 volunteering to make PPE

Apparel Design Students Team Up with FabLab to Produce More PPE

With the pandemic and shelter-in-place orders continuing to affect our communities and families, many people have pulled together in our local "makers" community to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care and other essential sectors. Our CoA FabLab has greatly contributed to this effort.

Initially the CoA FabLab, in partnership with the Laney FabLab, developed proto-type face shield designs for health care workers. Over the past weeks 50 thousand pounds of donated plastic sheet have been turned into over 100,000 face shields. These in-demand items have been distributed to hospitals, including Highland Hospital among others.

Most recently, FabLab staff members have teamed up with CoA's Apparel Design and Merchandising (ADAM) students to volunteer their time and expertise in designing and producing even more personal protective equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers and our community.
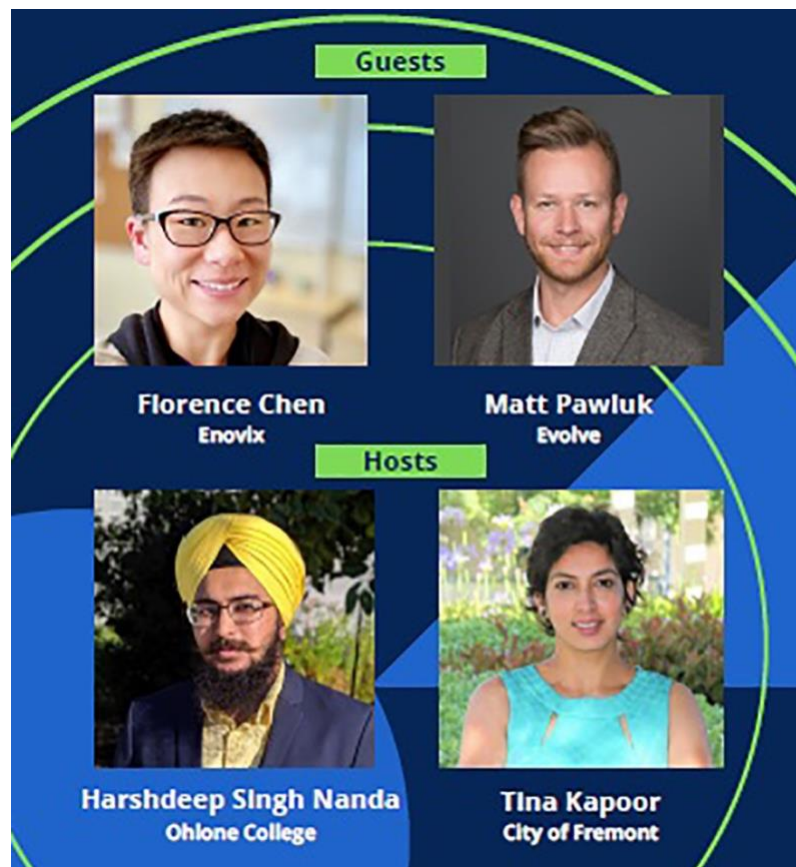
Thousands of yards of fabric have been donated to the collective initiative for this new endeavor. The fabric is being processed into kits to be delivered to individual sewists, who will transform the fabric into protective face masks. ADAM students have volunteered to sew face masks, medical gowns, medical caps, and booties to cover shoes for frontline workers. **Danny Beasley** has been the driving force for these various activities. Special thanks also to our talented FabLab Technicians **Miguel Vega, Justin Iredale**, and Fabricator **Vincent Stevenson.**

Below are links to articles that reference this extraordinary work, including photos from warehouses that have been repurposed to produce PPE through this extensive volunteer network. We applaud their selfless contributions.

https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2020/04/14/around-the-island-alamedans-kindness-during-pandemic-appreciated/

https://news.yahoo.com/inside-bay-area-makers-rush-220235392.html

https://alamedasun.com/news/alamedans-cranking-out-ppe

Guests

Florence Chen
Enovix

Matt Pawluk
Evolve

Hosts

Harshdeep Singh Nanda
Ohlone College

Tina Kapoor
City of Fremont

CoA Career and Employment Center Helps Coordinate a Series of Virtual Recruitment Events

The College of Alameda Career and Employment Center teamed up with the Ohlone College Tri-Cities Career Center, as well as other community college districts and agencies, to coordinate a series of Virtual Recruitment events, featuring regional employers. The first event was titled *Career Bytes* and took place online Friday, April 24, 2020, from 1 to 2 p.m.

The goal for this series is to connect students to job opportunities with various local employers in upcoming months. The employers will share current job openings, requirements to apply, and provide a question and answer session using Zoom chat technology to take questions from event participants. The events are open to all CoA and Peralta students, Peralta Alumni, and the surrounding Peralta Community.

Student Services Offers Emergency Grants, WiFi Access, and Free Chromebook Loans for Students

Many students are experiencing unanticipated hardships related to the shelter-in-place orders. In an effort to address the emergency needs of enrolled students, CoA has organized a variety options, including grants, a Chromebook loan program, and free WiFi access from campus parking areas.

The grants are providing much needed funds for food, housing, utilities, transportation issues, technology, equipment, and any other emergency impacting students ability to complete their classes. Due to overwhelming demand for grants, the Student Equity Achievement and Emergency Food Grants are no longer available. However, students are encouraged to apply for the remaining grant(s) that are listed on the CoA website: https://alameda.peralta.edu/student-services/emergency-aid-grants/

CoA students who are struggling to access classes online due to slow or no WIFI at home can now drive to campus to designated parking spaces to access high speed WIFI. Students are required to stay in their vehicle adhere to social distancing guidelines by parking in every other parking space to ensure at least a six-feet distance between cars.

The transition to distance education can be challenging, so CoA has created a Chromebook Lending Program to assist students in their completion of educational goals, decrease the digital divide, and increase overall course success and completion. Chromebooks are lent on a first come first serve basis. Students may reserve a Chromebook as long as they are currently registered at College of Alameda. All Chromebooks must be returned at the end of summer session. For more information: https://alameda.peralta.edu/chromebook-lending-program/

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Campus Deep Cleaning Project Has Been Completed

Campus deep cleaning was completed in late April 2020, including the main campus, 860 Atlantic, and the Aviation facility.

Thanks to custodial staff and engineers for working through the logistics. Also, an appreciative shout out to our head custodian **Lonnie Sampson**, who took the lead and performed inspection throughout the project.

Financial Resources Are Available to Help CoA Students

Due to COVID-19 and the Shelter-in-Place orders, many students are experiencing unanticipated hardships. College of Alameda is offering resources for students. Due to overwhelming demand, the Student Equity Achievement Grants and Emergency Food Grants are no longer available. Students are now encouraged to apply for the remaining grant(s) listed online. For more information on what resources are available and how to apply please advise your students to visit https://alameda.peralta.edu/student-services/emergency-aid-grants/

Submitted by Tina Vasconcellos, Ph.D., Vice President of Student Services, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Library Hours for ONLINE Services:

Cornonavirus Closure Update: The Library is physically closed until June 30, 2020. However, the following online Library services are still available during the ONLINE ONLY Library Services Hours (listed below):

- Free 24/7 access to online Reserve Textbooks
- Free 24/7 e-books and articles accessible through the Library databases
- Online Reference via chat/email with a librarian during Online Only Library Service Hours (listed below)
- Online Library instruction sessions can be scheduled by faculty using the Library Instruction Request Form

If students have overdue books, please ask them to wait to return them until the Library reopens. Any fines for overdue books will be waived on return. To contact the Library during the closure, please use the online chat/email.

ONLINE ONLY Library Service Hours for Spring:
(Jan. 21, 2020 – May 22, 2020):
Mon. – Thurs.: 7:50 am – 7:50 pm
Fri.: 7:50 am – 3:50 pm

Holidays (no chat/email/instruction available):
Mon., March 30th (Staff Development Day)
Tues., March 31(Cesar Chavez Day)
Fri., May 15th (Malcolm X's Birthday)
Library closes at noon Fri., May 22, 2020

Submitted by Jane McKenna, Head Librarian, Access Services Librarian and LIS85 Instructor, jmckenna@peralta.edu

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Exciting News!

COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA STUDENT AND COMMUNITY

GRAB-N-GO FREE LUNCH

Drive through or walk up to grab a free lunch at the College of Alameda circle. Enter the campus from Ralph Appezzato Memorial Parkway.

555 Ralph Appezzato Memorial Parkway, Alameda

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY STARTING TOMORROW:WEDNEDAY,MAY 6, 2020 11:30-1:30PM

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED UNTIL ALL MEALS ARE DISTRIBUTED.

Generously sponsored by:

EAT. LEARN. PLAY.

WORLD CENTRAL kitchen

COLLEGE OF ALAMEDA

The mission of the College of Alameda is to serve the educational needs of its community by providing comprehensive and flexible programs and resources to empower students to achieve their goals.

Volunteers Are Needed to Distribute Free Lunches to CoA Students

Many CoA students are struggling with basic needs in ways that many had not previously. For those students who were already struggling with basic needs things have only gotten worse.

Volunteers are needed to hand out Grab.n.Go lunches to CoA students on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. CoA will be offering drive by and walk up lunch distribution from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We will offer this service as long as we are able and likely through June 30, 2020. You may sign up for more than one date. We are anticipating a need for approximately six to eight volunteers per day.

On your volunteer date, please arrive at 11 a.m. and plan to stay until 1:30 p.m. or until lunches are gone (We do not anticipate this will take more than two hours). Please bring your own mask (gloves will be provided). We will contact you ahead of time with other details.

Special thanks to **The World Central Kitchen** and **Eat. Learn. Play**. for generously providing meals for our students.

If you have any questions, please email: VP Vasconcellos at tvasconcellos@peralta.edu.

Also, please use the following link to sign up using the Microsoft form:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Fmqh7q9Ie0eREwWxwBEj_z6ao_3n9zVEtja-oSuPCABUOElaRjBEVlQwQ0E3MlVWWFpIVUdUS1ZENy4u

Make Your *Splash*!

- Student success stories.

- Program, committee, department news, and updates.

- Faculty and staff awards, appointments, achievements, or kudos.

- Grant application, special project, or new programs of interest.

- Special hours and information for online or other services and classes.

- Upcoming deadlines that students or colleagues should know about.

- Event information.

- Other news.

Send us your news, so that we may share it with the campus and the community in the next edition of *Splash*! It's easy –just send us a short article and a good photo or two, and we will take care of the rest. Do not forget to include the name of the writer, the photographer, and anyone who is pictured (if possible).

Please email your news and information to: coasplash@peralta.edu and **be sure to include the word "Splash" in the subject line**.

Past issues of the *CoA Splash* are available at https://alameda.peralta.edu/newsletter/coa-splash/

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New walkway in progress at the New Center for Liberal Arts building. Photo Credit Tim Karas.

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